

Composition

Mrs. Spear

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Composition is a course structured for, but not limited to college bound students. The focus of this course is to improve writing skills and to help prepare you for the type of writing you might expect to do in college.

Grading Procedures:

Textbook/Papers – cover chapters 1, 2, 4-8, 10-13 (starting at chapters 10-13 then skipping around other units)

Narrative

Description

Extended definition

Analysis

Research

Expository

Persuasion/Argumentation

Reviewing nonfiction

Speech/address

Class set-up will be a writing workshop. Some days will be mini-lesson instruction days, some days will be work days, and some days will be peer response days. Plan to write everyday in class. Remember, this is a writing class.

You will need to have paper to keep a journal. This can be in a section of your notebook or a separate notebook or folder. The journal entries are part of your writing grade and will be collected periodically.

Composition books and Writer's Inc. books are classroom sets. Make sure that when borrowing a book you must sign the book out by writing your name on the board. The book must be returned so the other class period may use it as well. Upon return, your name should be erased from the board.

You will be responsible for keeping a writing progress folder (which will be used for your semester portfolio). I am interested in seeing your writing improve. You **MUST** keep all copies of all papers for the final!

There are two different teachers for Composition. Make sure that when checking on assignments and due dates you check to make sure that the other student has Mrs. Spear as well. Assignments are due for the classes at different times. If unsure ask Mrs. Spear or check the Internet as lesson plans are updated regularly.

Writing Process:

- Generating ideas
- Writing the rough draft
- Peer/instructor responding and advising
- Revising strategies
- Editing and refining
- Proofreading and polishing

Grading Scale:

93-100%	A
90-92%	A-
87-89%	B+
83-86%	B
80-82%	B-
77-79%	C+
73-76%	C
70-72%	C-
67-69%	D+
63-66%	D
60-62%	D-
59% and below	F

Grades are updated quite often – check with teacher in free time or else on the Internet. On the Internet go to www.algona.k12.ia.us/AHS/ and click on the Online Parent link.

Classroom Behaviors

1. Respect
2. Time
3. Prepared
4. Attitude
5. Clean

You are here to learn and if you are not going to learn or you are prohibiting others from learning you will not be in the room. If you choose to break a rule you will either be sent to the hall or the office. If the disruption/problem is minor you will be sent to the hall. You will miss class participation, do make-up work, and will suffer consequences for your actions. If disruption/problem is severe you will be sent to the office and the rules of the handbook apply. Cell phones ***are not allowed*** in this classroom. They cannot be seen, heard, or on.

Attendance/Make-up work

Every day in class you are going to learn, so it is important that you are here. If you do happen to miss, you get two days to make up work for every one day you are absent. If you are absent it is your responsibility to get your assignments that were due while you were gone done and handed in. It is also your responsibility to get the information you missed while you were gone. You can do this by asking the teacher (NOT during class, but in free time/work time), asking a friend, etc. Handouts you missed while being gone will be located in the trays on the counter. Being juniors and seniors in a college prep class, you should be responsible. Any work that is late is a deduction of a grade for every day that it is late. Work done in class will be a zero if absent. If you know an assignment is due that day you **MUST** have the work done upon your return. Homework example: if it is due on Thursday and you are absent Thursday it is due first thing Friday – NOT Monday or Tuesday. If it is an anticipated absence work must be made up **BEFORE** you leave.